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**From:** Hirsh, Steven [Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 6/23/2020 2:53:23 PM  
**To:** Rebecca-Ann Warns -MDE- [rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov]  
**CC:** Rogers, Rick [rogers.rick@epa.gov]; Mohollen, Laura [Mohollen.Laura@epa.gov]; Yap-deffler, Yazmine [Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: PFAS Studies Throughout EPA Region III

Hi Rebecca,

Laura and I are looking for Agency resources that would be most helpful answering your question about PFAS occurrence data now and in the future. Once we have an answer Ill propose dates for a TEAMS meeting.

It would seem reasonable to invite someone from the MDE 'superfund' group so they will hear the same information and add to the discussion related to PFAS sites not known to EPA. Do you agree?

Thanks  
Steve

Steven Hirsh, Chief  
Federal Facilities and Site Assessment Branch  
Superfund & Emergency Management Division  
US EPA Region III

Desk: (215) 814-3352 Cell: (215) 514-9015  
hirsh.steven@epa.gov

**From:** Rebecca-Ann Warns -MDE- <rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 12:32 PM  
**To:** Hirsh, Steven <Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Saeid Kasraei -MDE- <saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Mohollen, Laura <Mohollen.Laura@epa.gov>; Yap-deffler, Yazmine <Yap-Deffler.Yazmine@epa.gov>; Denise Keehner -MDE- <denise.keehner@maryland.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: PFAS Studies Throughout EPA Region III

Rick- Thank you for sending over the pre-treatment report. If you or Karrie would like to give an update on the action plan, that would be helpful. The event will most likely be held virtually mid- to late August. This portion of the talk would be focused on what EPA has done, what EPA's top priorities are moving forward, and any common shortfalls or obstacles other states are facing when addressing PFAS. We have a drafted itinerary that needs to be looked over by MDE's front office, and once this is finalized I can forward this to you for more information on the event.

Steven- Generally, the objective of this project is to collect information on the state of PFAS science, especially as it pertains to the State of Maryland and other states across Region 3. An important step in this would be understanding where PFAS has been detected throughout our State and/or Region 3, as this would help us prioritize our own efforts down the road. I think scheduling a call would be a good idea. It would most likely be myself and Denise Keehner, Assistant Secretary of MDE's Water and Science Administration. Please let me know which time(s) work for you this/ next week.

Thank you both again for your help with this effort.  
Best,

On Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 11:21 AM Hirsh, Steven <[Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Rebecca,

Laura Mohollen chief of the Technical Support Branch and I coordinate PFAS activities for the Superfund Division at R3.

Other than the 5 Year Review question I don't know what MDE's PFAS interests and concerns are so I recommend we set up a call to discuss. For EPA it would be me, Laura and probably a person from our Site Assessment group.

Let me know if you want to set something up; who from the State would participate and if possible topics to be discussed.

Thanks

Steve

Steven Hirsh, Chief

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**From:** Rogers, Rick <[rogers.rick@epa.gov](mailto:rogers.rick@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 10:26 AM

**To:** Rebecca-Ann Warns -MDE- <[rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov](mailto:rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov)>

**Cc:** Saeid Kasraei -MDE- <[saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov](mailto:saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov)>; Hirsh, Steven <[Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov](mailto:Hirsh.Steven@epa.gov)>; Crumlish, Karen <[Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: PFAS Studies Throughout EPA Region III

Rebecca,

Attached is the report from the Pre-Treatment investigation that was done related to one industrial user discharging to a municipal sewage treatment plant. A lot of the sampling that was performed was in the receiving waters upstream and downstream of the WWTP. A former industrial user, a company that used to make AFFF, had shifted its production to North Carolina, but it appears from the sampling we did, plus sampling conducted by Aqua PA that there is PFAS reaching the creek in the vicinity of the former AFFF manufacturer through infiltration into storm sewer pipes and/or contaminated groundwater flowing into the creek bed. The one interesting thing to note is that the predominant PFAS compound in this area is PFNA, which is not the case for other military or airport sites where the predominant PFAS is PFOS.

I suggest you contact Steve Hirsh in our Superfund Program. His position deals with Superfund sites at federal facilities, but he is also his Division's lead POC on PFAS. I copied him on this message.

Since the PFAS Action Plan covers so many things, it doesn't have to be EPA's ORD folks who could deliver an update on Action Plan Progress. I could do that, or Karrie Crumlish who is Chief of the Drinking Water Section (who is also copied) in our Water Division. ORD would be good if you wanted to focus the discussion on lab methods, toxicity assessments and other PFAS environmental research.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Rick

Rick Rogers, Chief

Water Branch (3ED30)

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**From:** Rebecca-Ann Warns -MDE- <[rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov](mailto:rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 22, 2020 8:49 AM  
**To:** Rogers, Rick <[rogers.rick@epa.gov](mailto:rogers.rick@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lisa Daniels <[ldaniels@pa.gov](mailto:ldaniels@pa.gov)>; Saeid Kasraei -MDE- <[saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov](mailto:saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PFAS Studies Throughout EPA Region III

Good morning Rick,

Thank you for all of the information. If you could please put me in contact with someone from the Superfund program that would be great. I did have two other questions. The first concerns the NPDES Pre-Treatment Sampling Effort in Region 3. Do you know where I can find information on this study? When searching for this information, I keep finding studies from Michigan and North Carolina.

My other question is about having an EPA representative present on the progress EPA has made regarding the PFAS Action Plan at a roundtable discussion/ event. Would someone from ORD be the best person to consult with? If so, would you know who from ORD would be the best to reach out to concerning this effort?

Thank you again for all your help.

Best,

On Thu, Jun 18, 2020 at 7:28 PM Rogers, Rick <[rogers.rick@epa.gov](mailto:rogers.rick@epa.gov)> wrote:

Rebecca:

I'm not aware of any studies that looked at larger areas. EPA has required some PFAS sampling related to specific sites. The sampling was done more to delineate a known plume of contamination and to determine what public and private drinking water wells were impacted.

Our Superfund Program is collecting PFAS samples at Superfund sites across Region 3 during the sites' 5 year review process. That is an on-going effort to verify if the Sites on our Superfund National Priority List have PFAS on top of the contaminant(s) that made it an NPL site to begin with. I'd have to put you in touch with folks in the Superfund program to find out if any of that information has been made publicly available through the NPL site web pages.

EPA Region 3 performed one very localized sampling effort in conjunction with our NPDES Pre-Treatment Program to determine if PFAS was being discharged to a WWTP and what the concentrations were upstream and downstream of their WWTP discharge.

As far as toxicity studies go, that is all being coordinated out of EPA HQ and our Office of Research and Development (ORD). They are completing toxicity assessments on PFBS and GenX and are starting assessments of five other commonly found PFAS at contamination sites. We are not doing toxicity assessments in Region 3.

EPA Regions 3 and 5 (Chicago) are jointly going to do a study on the fate and transport of GenX and PFOA released from the Chemours Washington Works plant near Parkersburg, WV. That will focus mainly on the transport of air deposited PFAS through the soils and into the underlying aquifer to try to find out how long it takes for PFAS to reach drinking water well depth.

EPA's ORD is wrapping up the creation of a PFAS Dashboard web site that it plans on making available to states in the near future. That will have some GIS layers that will show sites where PFAS contamination is already known to exist. I don't know if it will have any information on studies that are being done.

ORD also sponsored some studies that have been published in professional journals. *ES&T Journal* published two papers on PFAS studies that ORD sponsored where they had research students do the sampling and ORD did the lab work. These two studies were done in relation to two Chemours plants: one in North Carolina (published in 2016) and the Parkersburg, WV plant (published a couple of weeks ago). Attached are the two papers. I also attached a very recent published paper looking at PFAS in soils in southern New Jersey around two sources of PFAS.

I hope this helps. Please let me know if you have any questions and if the Superfund site sampling that is occurring would be of interest to you. It is a very limited effort to collect a couple of samples at NPL sites. If anything is found of interest, they may start doing a more in-depth assessment.

Rick

Rick Rogers, Chief

Water Branch (3ED30)

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**From:** Rebecca-Ann Warns -MDE- <[rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov](mailto:rebecca-ann.warns@maryland.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 10:24 AM

**To:** Lisa Daniels <[ldaniels@pa.gov](mailto:ldaniels@pa.gov)>; Rogers, Rick <[rogers.rick@epa.gov](mailto:rogers.rick@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Saeid Kasraei -MDE- <[saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov](mailto:saeid.kasraei@maryland.gov)>

**Subject:** PFAS Studies Throughout EPA Region III

Good morning Ms. Daniels and Mr. Rogers,

My name is Rebecca Warns, a current Natural Resources Planner with the Maryland Department of the Environment's Water Supply Program. Currently, I am working with MDE's Water and Science Administration Leadership on collecting materials and information on PFAS studies throughout Maryland and other states. I was wondering if you or anyone in your programs has come across completed or ongoing studies to address the presence of PFAS throughout the state, across the Potomac and Susquehanna River Basins, and/or in Region III, PFAS toxicity, PFAS fate and transport, or other PFAS-related activities. If so, could you please forward any information about these studies to me? The information will be used to familiarize MDE staff on current PFAS related efforts that have been conducted outside of State offices.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your help.

Best,

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**Rebecca Warns**

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